

Islands in the Stream Expedition  
2001 Field Season  
**Dive Summary**

**Lophelia Bank Pt1**

**9/24/2001**

**North Carolina Shelf: The Point, Steeples and Lophelia Banks, Islands in the Stream**

**Overview of Dive JSL2-4365 at Lophelia Bank Pt1**

Phil Santos piloted this dive with aft technician Ben Chiong at the site known as Lophelia Bank Pt1 (34.18691 / -74.10228) on 9/24/2001 starting at 8:04:58. Total dive time was 3:50:02 and the maximum depth reached was 1590 feet. Scientific observers were Ken Sulak and John McDonough. (All times EST)

**Dive Objectives.** Objectives accomplished during the dive include:

- Exploration/Recon
- Fish Assessment
- Benthic Assessment

**Data Collected.** Types of data collected during the dive include:

Stills	80
CTD/Data Sonde	
Fish	
Digital Video Tapes	1
Digital Video Tapes	1
Digital Video Tapes	1

**Living Marine Resources Abundance**

*few 2-10; many 11 - 100; abundant >100*

<b>Pelagic Fish</b>	Few	<b>Other Benthic</b>	Single
<b>Bottom Fish</b>	Abundant	Lophelia coral	
<b>Crustacean</b>	Many		
<b>Mollusk</b>	Few		
<b>Echinoderm</b>	Few		

**Observations and Comments on Living Marine Resources:**

**General Comments**

None.

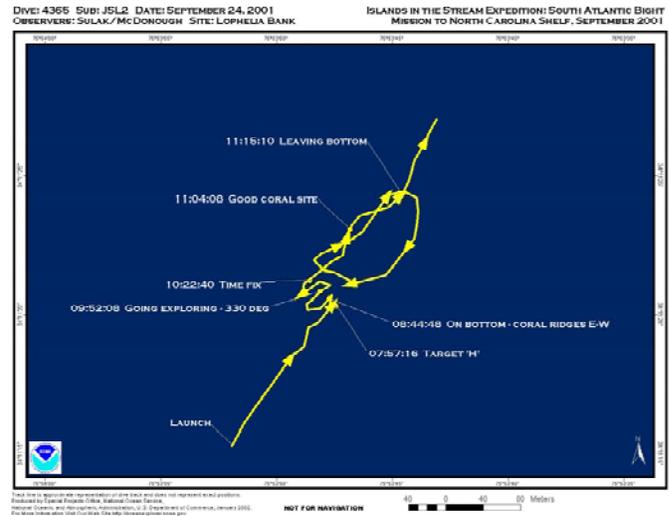


Prepared by :  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
9/25/2001

**Dive Track Description**

Made bottom on rubble substrate-proceeded toward sonar target ridge likely to have live coral. Encountered scattered small coral bushes during transit to target and collected some fish.

At target ridge found a series of parallel ridges and valleys with 2-5m relief. Small coral bushes(1-2ft. tall) carpeted on side and top of ridge. Backside slop and valleys had rubble with scattered coral heads. Bottomed sub at 'fix 3' top of ridge: Videoded and rotenoned-collected several fish. Near end of dive transited along ridge to a plateau crest population by 4-6' tall dense Lophelia. Many fishes and inverts(crabs, brittle stars, urchin, slit shell) associated with dense coral matrix. Super site at end of dive. Relief of features observed during the dive ranged from to 30 meters.



**Observed Human Activities**

None Observed.

**Observed Human Impacts**

None Observed.

**Overall Dive Site Ratings**

1 = low; 10 = high

<b>Uniqueness</b>	8
<b>Health</b>	10
<b>Disturbance</b>	0
<b>Biodiversity</b>	7

**Observed Fish Abundance**

*few 2-10; many 11 - 100; abundant >100*

Beryx splendens	Single
Scorpaena sp.	Few
Laemonema melanurum	Many
Laemonema goodebenorum	Many
Scyliorhinus petifor	Many
Physiculus fulvus	Single
ILyophis brunneus	Single
Myxine glutinosa	Many
Hoplustethus mediterraneus	Many
Polyipnus asteroidus	Few